

## DV 2012

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### VISA

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#### Visa Facilitators

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- There are several Internet websites that advertise services for assistance with submission of Diversity Visa (DV) Lottery entries. Additionally, in many countries, there are businesses operating as visa facilitators, visa agents, or visa coordinators that also provide assistance with the DV process.
- Even though these services and businesses may be available, the Department of State strongly encourages applicants to complete the Diversity Visa Lottery entry without such assistance. The entry form and complete instructions for submitting an entry are available on the Department of State's web page ([http://travel.state.gov/visa/immigrants/types/types\\_1318.html](http://travel.state.gov/visa/immigrants/types/types_1318.html)). There is no cost for submitting a Lottery entry through the Internet.
- The use of outside entities to assist in the Diversity Visa process is not only an unnecessary expense, but incorrect information is often entered, resulting in the Lottery entry being disqualified or the visa application being denied should the individual be selected to apply for a visa.
- In the past, some unscrupulous visa facilitators have been known to substitute their own addresses for the Lottery entrants' addresses without their knowledge. If an individual was selected in the DV Lottery, the notification letter of selection would then go to the facilitator and not to the selectee. The facilitator would subsequently demand money or require illegal action on the part of the selectee in order for the selectee to obtain the notification package.
- For DV-2012, as part of the Department's continuing efforts to combat such fraud and malfeasance, the Kentucky Consular Center will not be mailing selectee notification or visa appointment letters. Instead, notification and application information will ONLY be available through Entry Status Check on the E-DV website <http://www.dvlottery.state.gov>.

#### DV Notification via mail and E-mail

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- The Department of State wants to emphasize that the Bureau of Consular Affairs never provides notification of DV selection via e-mail. Selection notification has, in the past been made via mail or a delivery service. For DV-2012, notification of selection will only be made through Entry Status Check on the E-DV website <http://www.dvlottery.state.gov>.
- The Department of State will only send an e-mail to selected applicants who have responded to the notification information on Entry Status Check. This e-mail will simply alert such applicants that details of their immigrant visa appointment are available on Entry Status Check. E-mail communications will not provide selectee notification, will not direct recipients to pay fees, will not provide application instructions, and will not detail visa interview dates and times. This information is ONLY available through Entry Status Check on the E-DV website <http://www.dvlottery.state.gov>.
- You should not believe any e-mail claiming that you have been selected to apply for a visa under the Diversity Visa program. In some cases, these malicious e-mails are sent by criminal operators who seek to defraud individuals of their money. If you receive such a notification, we invite you to pass it to the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate. The State Department has dedicated units that work with Internet providers to try to stop these scams.

Please consult the State Department website at [http://travel.state.gov/visa/immigrants/types/types\\_1318.html](http://travel.state.gov/visa/immigrants/types/types_1318.html) for complete information about participating in the current DV program.

Also consult our fraud warning for further information about internet scams at [http://travel.state.gov/visa/immigrants/types/types\\_1749.html](http://travel.state.gov/visa/immigrants/types/types_1749.html)